Dr. Elizabeth Economy



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Elizabeth Economy is the C.V. Starr senior fellow and director for Asia studies at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).

Dr. Economy has published widely on both Chinese domestic and foreign policy. Her most recent book, The River Runs Black: The Environmental Challenge to China's Future (Cornell University Press, 2004; Second Edition, 2010), was named one of the Top 50 Sustainability Books in 2008 by the University of Cambridge, won the 2005 International Convention on Asia Scholars Award for the best social sciences book published on Asia, and was listed as one of the top ten books of 2004 by the Globalist as well as one of the best business books of 2010 by Booz Allen Hamilton's strategy+business magazine. She also coedited China Joins the World: Progress and Prospects (Council on Foreign Relations Press, with Michel Oksenberg, 1999) and The Internationalization of Environmental Protection (Cambridge University Press, with Miranda Schreurs, 1997). She has published articles in foreign policy and scholarly journals including Foreign Affairs, Harvard Business Review, and Foreign Policy; and op-eds in the New York Times, the Washington Post, and International Herald Tribune, among others. Her most recent piece, "The Game Changer: Coping with China's Foreign Policy Revolution," in the November/December 2010 issue of Foreign Affairs, examines the implications of China's rising influence overseas. Dr. Economy is a frequent guest on nationally broadcast television and radio programs, has testified before Congress on numerous occasions, and regularly consults for U.S. government agencies and companies. She is currently working on a new book focusing on China's rise and its geopolitical and strategic implications. She writes about topics involving China on CFR's Asia Program blog, Asia Unbound.

Dr. Economy is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Future of China. She also serves on the board of the China-U.S. Center for Sustainable Development. She has taught undergraduate and graduate level courses at Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, and the University of Washington's Jackson School of International Studies.

Dr. Economy received her BA from Swarthmore College, her AM from Stanford University, and her PhD from the University of Michigan. In 2008, she received an honorary doctor of laws degree from Vermont Law School. She lives in New York City with her husband and three children.